EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

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The *Journal of Critical Incident Analysis (JCIA)* is an initiative of the Academy for Critical Incident Analysis (ACIA) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, The City University of New York (CUNY). ACIA was founded for the purpose of promoting a scholarly dialogue relating to the emergence, management, and consequences of critical incidents. Accordingly, *JCIA* is an extension of this purpose, and it is envisioned as an outlet for empirical research and theoretical discussions about critical incidents.

In volume four, issue one of *JCIA*, we present four articles. In the lead article, "Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms after the 2007 Shootings at Virginia Tech," Scarpa, Sheetz, Wilson, Waldron, Patriquin, and Jones examine differences in communication mediums (i.e., electronic versus traditional) and posttraumatic stress differences among students, alumni, faculty, and staff of Virginia Tech. Given the widespread proliferation of electronic forms of communication, such as cell phones and social media outlets, this article makes an important contribution to understanding a potential distal cause of posttraumatic stress, which can lead to mitigation techniques.

In the second article, "The Aftermath of the Shootings at Virginia Tech," Jones provides a chronological account of the actions taken by the university in a nine month period following the event to foster safety and stability.

In the third article, "Collaborative Planning as a Tool for Strengthening Local Emergency Management," Clay and Joy adopt a case study approach, using Tennessee's District 11 Homeland Security strategic planning process as a means of gaining a greater understanding of how collaborations with non-governmental entities and the citizenry can lead to better disaster preparedness, mitigation, and response.

In the closing article, "Resistance to Change: Understanding Why Disaster Response and Recovery Institutions are Set in Their Ways," Rivera examines path dependence and positive feedback theory in attempt to explain why organizations charged with disaster mitigation find organizational change to be challenging. The author provides recommendations as to how organizations can overcome these challenges.

I would like to thank *JCIA*'s editorial board members and referees for their efforts, as well as our contributors for considering *JCIA* as an outlet for their work.